

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed January 10, 2005, has been received and reviewed. Claims 1 through 23 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1 through 23 stand rejected. Applicant has canceled claims 1-23, added new claims 24-31 directed to the embodiment shown in FIG. 13 and described in the specification. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application as amended herein.

Drawing Objections

Applicant believes the drawing objections set forth by the Examiner are now moot due to the cancellation of claims containing the element of voltage reference trace(s) being spatially periodically coupled to a voltage reference at predetermined intervals.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 20, 22 and 23 are objected to due to informalities in the claim language. The claim objections are now moot due to the cancellation of these claims.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Claim Rejections

The 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection of claims 12 and 19 is now moot due to the cancellation of these claims.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejections

Anticipation Rejection Based on U.S. Patent No. 6,040,524 to Kobayashi et al.

The 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection of claims 1 through 5, 7, 9 through 11, 15, 16 and 18 is now moot due to the cancellation of these claims.

Anticipation Rejection Based on U.S. Patent No. 3,398,232 to Hoffman et al.

The 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1, 8, 9 and 13 is now moot due to the cancellation of these claims.

Anticipation Rejection Based on U.S. Patent No. 4,130,723 to Wakeling

The 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1, 2, 10 through 12, 15, 16 and 19 is now moot due to the cancellation of these claims.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Obviousness Rejections

Obviousness Rejection Based on U.S. Patent No. 6,373,740 to Forbes et al. in view of either U.S. Patent No. 6,040,524 to Kobayashi et al or U.S. Patent No. 4,130,723 to Wakeling

The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 20, 21 and 23 is now moot due to the cancellation of these claims.

Obviousness Rejection Based on U.S. Patent No. 6,373,740 to Forbes et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,130,723 to Wakeling

The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claim 22 is now moot due to the cancellation of this claim.

Obviousness Rejection Based on U.S. Patent No. 6,040,524 to Kobayashi et al. or U.S. Patent No. 4,130,723 to Wakeling in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,631,446 to Quan

The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 6 and 17 is now moot due to the cancellation of these claims.

Obviousness Rejection Based on U.S. Patent No. 3,398,232 to Hoffman in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,631,446 to Quan

The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 14 is now moot due to the cancellation of this claim.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENTS

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of new claims 24-31 above, which should be entered by the Examiner because the amendments are supported by the as-filed specification and drawings and do not add any new matter to the application.

CONCLUSION

Claims 24-31 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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